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PRIME NEWS

China may lift import ban on bird's nests

NST-2/4/2012

GOOD NEWS: Nitrate content must not exceed 30 parts per million

NANNING

CHINA is prepared to lift the ban on the import of Malaysia's bird's nests, provided its nitrate content does not exceed 30 parts per million (PPM).

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the good news was conveyed to him by his Chinese counterpart, Wen Jiabao, during their bilateral meeting here.

"The nitrate level in bird's nest from Malaysia is not acceptable to China," Najib said before returning to Kuala Lumpur after a one-day

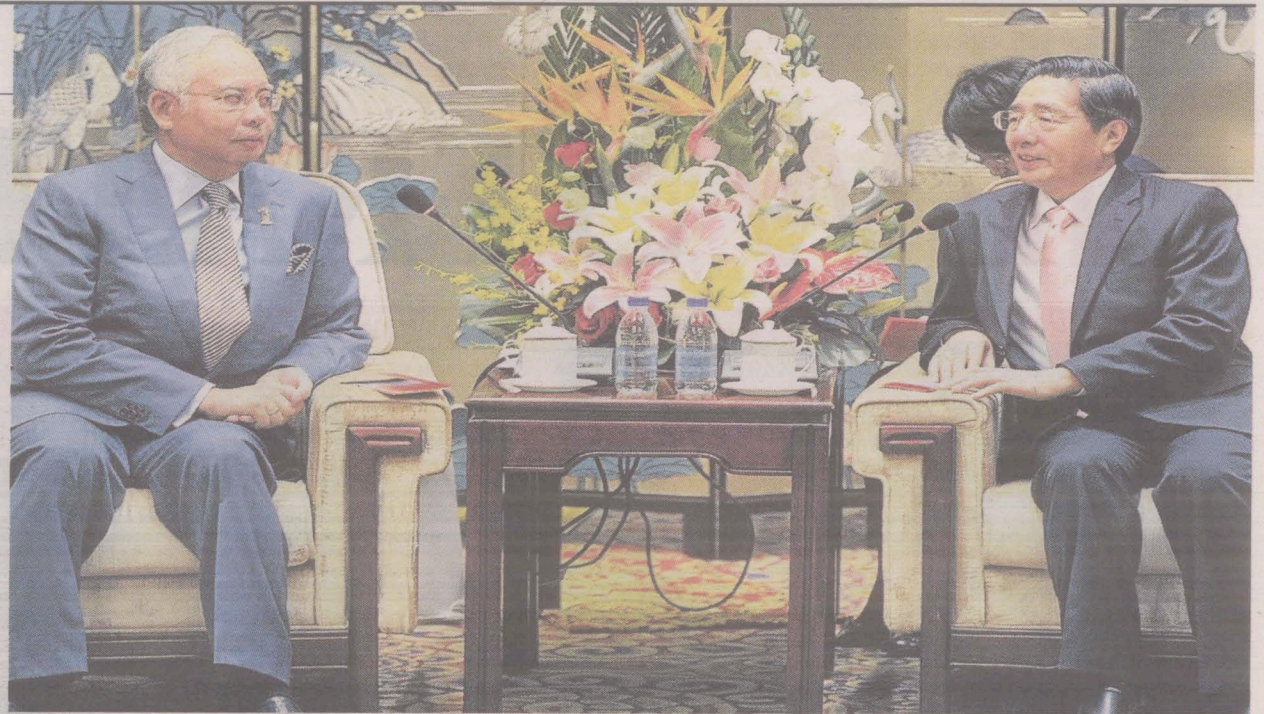
working visit here.

He said the requirement imposed by the Chinese government would be conveyed to bird's nest operators in Malaysia.

In the meeting with Wen, Najib conveyed AirAsia's plan to introduce a flight to Nanning to boost trade and improve people-to-people ties between the countries.

The Chinese government supports the plan and will help AirAsia on the commencement of flights.

The leaders agreed on the need to intensify programmes involving youth in Malaysia and China.



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak making a courtesy call on Guangxi province party secretary Guo Shengkun (right) in Nanning yesterday. Bernama pic

Najib said Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Ahmad Shabery Cheek would lead a delegation of 150 youth leaders from Malaysia to visit China this month.

Najib, who arrived here at 1am yesterday with his wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, had a packed itinerary during his visit.

He began the day by receiving a courtesy call by Guangxi province party secretary Guo Shengkun and Governor Ma Biao at the Marriott Hotel.

This was followed with the meeting with Wen at the Li Yuan Resort, where they discussed matters of mutual interest as well as regional and global issues. It was the third meeting between the two leaders over the last 12 months since Wen's visit to Kuala Lumpur in April last year. They met again in the southern capital of Guangxi province five months ago during the China-ASEAN Exhibition.

Their meeting was cordial, reflecting the commitment by both

leaders to boost economic cooperation between both countries.

Present at the meeting were International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed and special envoy to China Tan Sri Ong Ka Ting.

After the meeting, the two leaders witnessed the signing of agreement for the China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park project between Qinzhou Development (Malaysia) Consortium Sdn Bhd and China's Qinzhou Jingu Investment Co Ltd.